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The Intelligencer will publish brief and rational letters on subjects of general interest when they are accompanied by the names and addresses of the authors and are not of a defamatory nature. Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

In order to avoid delays on account of personal absence, letters to The Intelligencer intended for publication should not be addressed to any individual connected with the paper, but simply to The Intelligencer.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1916.

Let's have the little joke.

The Colonel's devil-bird must be a devil of a bird.

Everything is budding forth these days but candidates.

The high cost of dyeing is getting to be a serious thing.

Uncle Sam appears to be the "Who's Who in Mexico" just now.

The marrying bug seems to have established permanent quarters in the White House.

Villa has been seriously wounded in the leg. What a pity the fellow who did the job shot too low.

If Roosevelt enters the presidential race, it will be appropriate to say "quoth the devil-bird 'Nevermore.'"

There is no such thing as a spirit medium in South Carolina now. York News. What's the matter with the express companies?

It was reported at the time of the Augusta fire that the mayor ordered the firemen to fight. But it didn't take the fire to reveal the fact that there are no more in that prohibition city.

It is said that the French soldiers will be given cider instead of wine hereafter. If that war keeps up it's going to work a hardship on somebody yet.

The Spartanburg Journal says there are some folks down in Georgia who think that Roosevelt is still president. There are some folks in Spartanburg who don't know Roosevelt was ever president.

If the editor of this paper had a mother-in-law he would be perfectly willing for her to join the troops in Mexico. York News. Now Watson, you've got it down wrong—you'd be not only willing but determined to join and get in the front ranks.

The purchasing power of the American dollar today is said to be only 62 per cent of what it was from 1900 to 1905. Still, it's more than the purchasing power of supposedly equal quantities of British shillings, French francs and German marks. And what's more, we have the dollars.

RAIL-ROAD EFFICIENCY

Our railroads have always boasted of their efficiency. They have been supposed to represent American administrative ability at its highest development. Railroad managers have been regarded as super-business men, and they have complacently acquiesced in that estimate of them. If other enterprises were only handled as well as the railroads! If the government were only managed half as well! The transportation lines had troubles—but not of their own making. If meddlers would keep their hands off, the lines would be all right.

Our faith in this view has been shaken lately by the railroads' manifest inability to handle traffic. They were excused at first, on the ground that their business had suddenly grown to such volume that the rolling stock sufficient for normal traffic would not suffice, and it would take time to get new equipment. In the East particularly there is intolerable freight congestion. It is not merely that cars are lacking to carry all the goods offered; but the roads seem to have absurdly ineffective control of the cars available.

Manufacturers and merchants everywhere are suffering. The nation's business is retarded. Cars loaded and started to their destination are lost for weeks. Arrived, they disappear mysteriously in freight yards while consignees clamor for their unloading. The traffic managers have failed to rise to the situation.

SPRING GARDENING

This is the time of year when John comes home with a pocket full of seed packets and a book on vegetable gardening and a new spade and hoe and rake, and spends his evening pottering around the back yard and stewing and fussing because the soil is so late getting into workable condition.

John is scientific about it—all for intensive up-to-date gardening. He knows whether his soil is acid or alkali, and can talk about nitrates and phosphates and other fertilizers in a way that would have made his farmer grand-dad's eyes bulge out. He knows all about humus and mulch and other esoteric matters. He knows what he wants to plant, and why and when and how. He can draw you a diagram of his vegetable garden-to-be, as an architect sketches the plan of a house. Perhaps he has his hot-bed or cold-frame working, and plants ready to set out the first warm, bright day after the frost is gone.

He is more interested in all this than he is in the German drive at Verdun or the search for Villa or the presidential line-up or the latest prize fight or the baseball outlook.

And it's very good for John. It gives him a wholesome intellectual interest—it takes brains to make a good garden; it gives him the finest kind of out-door exercise; it keeps him out of questionable company and questionable places; it saves him money that he would otherwise spend in more expensive recreation. It gives him vegetables which, even if they don't represent a net profit on his back-yard investment, have a freshness and a flavor that cannot be matched on earth. And back of all this is a vast pride of achievement that makes John brag more about his first foolish little radish than about the biggest triumph of the year in his regular line of business.

It's good for John's family, too.

HE OWNS THE RING

An encouragement to young men of unstable affections is the decision of a jury in the Supreme Court of Bronx county, New York, to the effect that the engagement ring is the property of the giver, and that in case of divorce or annulment of marriage possession of the golden circle goes to him.

Lightly now, indeed, may the fancy of the summer man of 1916 turn to thoughts of love. One ring will do for all his amours. No longer may the cunning maiden acquire a collection of solitaires big enough to make a necklace from luckless swains whom she has ensnared and afterwards jilted.

The high cost of loving may be reduced by economical husbands-to-be who are able to persuade their chosen ones that there's really no sentiment in buying beautiful engagement rings, since they are not gifts to their recipients, but really loans, owed in fee simple by the gentlemen. How much more sensible to buy a piano lamp or easy chair for the new home, in token of the engagement!

One can't, of course, very well wear a piano lamp. But a diamond solitaire of the cent-cent variety would do as well for a badge, since it seems merely the equivalent of a tag saying "sold, hands on" to other prospective purchasers.

The association of retail jewelers

may possibly arise to sustain the cause of feminism by an appeal from this decision. But the thrift societies may quote Ruskin to oppose them.

Meantime, fair ladies, your betrothal rings are not your own.

UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS

The following item, taken from this week's Woodruff Record, is about the most natural looking piece of news we have run across in some weeks, and if it wasn't such a long way to walk—just to break the monotony and to forget, for awhile at least, the war, etc.—we'd add one more to the crowd who will enjoy this rare treat that the Reverend will thrust upon them Friday night:

Rev Sam T. Creech will deliver a lecture in the Methodist church at Switzer, Friday night, on "Why Married Life is Sometimes a Failure." Rev Mr. Creech is one of the most popular lecturers in the state having lectured in all sections of South Carolina. He is assured of a large crowd Friday night at Switzer. The proceeds will go to the church building fund.

MOVIES AND VENTILATION

Health inspectors in New York City visited 1,000 moving picture theatres, and found that only 77 of them lived up to the law requiring 500 cubic feet of fresh air per hour for each patron. More than half of them were declared to be so improperly ventilated that they were a menace to public health.

The same conditions might be found in nearly every city. It is surprising how little attention has been given to ventilation in the typical movie theatre. There is an explanation, perhaps, in the fact that so many of our movie houses were built hastily, at low cost, to minister to a sudden demand. The newer picture theatres are for the most part better built—more artistic, more suited to their purpose and more considerate of the comfort and health of the audience. It has naturally taken time to evolve a definite type of theatre for this new art. It is unfortunate, however, that adequate ventilation should have had to wait for such architectural evolution when, next to precautions against fire, it should have been the prime consideration.

Few of the smaller cities have the New York ventilation requirement. Nevertheless, a local movie patron needs just as much fresh air as a New Yorker—probably more, because he is used to more.

A LINE OF DOPE

Weather Forecast—Fair Saturday; Sunday increasing cloudiness.

Mr. Thad Horton, son of Mr. R. Horton, is spending a few days at home. Mr. Horton is now located at Macon, Ga., where he has charge of the Texas Oil company's business at that place.

Work of rebuilding Mr. Alt's house on Richard street has been started. His home was recently destroyed by fire. A five room cottage is being built.

Mr. W. H. Kinard, commercial agent for the Georgia railroad with headquarters in Greenville, was a visitor in Anderson yesterday, having come over to confer with Mr. W. K. Thompson, commercial agent for the Piedmont & Northern railway, who has just returned from a business trip through Georgia.

The farmers are about ready for a little rain, according to visitors in Anderson yesterday. They state that the ground is becoming a little hard and that in some places it can not be plowed. Visitors also stated that some of the farmers had already started to planting cotton.

The meeting of the directors and the railway committee and the young men which had been arranged for Monday afternoon has been postponed until Tuesday afternoon.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

April first has a character of its own among the days of the year, that it is devoted to practical joking. "On this day it becomes the business of many people," says an English writer, "to practice innocent impostures on their unsuspecting friends and neighbors, thus making that what we call April fools." The

jest is to catch the person off his guard, to pass off upon him some probable but untruthful story, or to place him in some absurd position, thereby making of him a laughing stock for the bystanders.

In Scotland this joking is carried to greater extremes. If some unsuspicious person can be induced to go on an errand bearing a note presumably containing a message but in reality having within the words

"This is the first day of April. Hunt the gawk another mile," the whole community is in high glee. The first person to whom the messenger goes will send him to another, and this one to a third, and so on until some one tells him of the joke, or until he realizes himself that he is hoaxed. The Scotch use the term gawk (meaning cuckoo) to denote April fool, and among them the trick just mentioned is called hunting the gawk.

From the time of the Spectator, English literature has many references to April fooling, although the antiquarians are unable to fix the beginning or trace the origin of the custom.

There are traces of the prevalence of April fool in France at an earlier period than is noted in England. It is related that Francis, Duke of Lorraine and his wife who had been in prison, disguised themselves as peasant and escaped. A woman who discovered them told the sentry, but as it was April first he cried "April fool" and paid no attention to her. Thus the royal pair were able to flee for safety.

The Hindus have a festival which terminated March 31, during which the great aim is to send persons with messages to imaginary individuals or to those known to be absent and then to laugh at their disappointment. To find the practice so widely prevalent and the date so similar, would seem to indicate that the customs of this day had a very early origin among mankind.

ANOTHER RAKING FOR CITY FATHER

Atlanta, Ga., March 31.—J. W. Maddox, ex-alderman of Atlanta, who has come in for more lambasting and unfavorable notoriety than any man ever connected with the city government, outside of Mayor Woodward, is going to get another raking over the coals when the city council meets tomorrow to investigate Councilman J. W. Maddox's alleged misconduct makes its report to council.

The committee will accuse Mr. Maddox, who is now a city police commissioner, of using his position to advance his interests as a real estate and excavating contractor. The ex-alderman was fined so often while an alderman for spilling dirt on the streets that he had the spilling ordinance repealed. Of late he has been frequently arraigned for alleged cruelty to his mules, smoking while working them with sore necks, chattering knives and other troubles.

Cardinal on War

Atlanta, Ga., March 31.—Cardinal Gibbons, head of the Catholic church in America, who was in Atlanta yesterday, declared in his opinion that the war will soon be over. He said it was a violent war and violent wars never last long. The cardinal would not put a time limit on it. He was on his way from New Orleans to Baltimore. Despite his eighty-one years the distinguished churchman is apparently well and happy.

ANDERSON MILL NEWS

Rev. J. A. Anderson, pastor of the Second Baptist church, will begin services for revival meeting at next Sunday morning, April 2.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Mr. Doss F. Carter, who was operated on for appendicitis at the Anderson County hospital two weeks ago, was brought home last Sunday and is getting along nicely.

Mr. C. B. Graves of Newry, S. C., is in the city on business and will place Mr. Graves in a position as second hand in the weaving room at Courtenay Mills Co., Newry, S. C.

Mrs. Ella Smith, wife of Mr. L. L. Smith, who was operated on at St. Mary's hospital sometime ago, is home and is getting along nicely.

Mrs. Ferguson of Anderson is visiting her son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Daniel.

Mrs. Hammond of Ball Bluff, Ala., is visiting her mother, Mrs. M. J. Gray on West and Avenue.

Mr. J. W. Clark has accepted a position as team driver at the Anderson County hospital.

Mr. J. M. Calhoun and W. T. Wright are having their cars overhauled and repaired.

Frank W. Anderson, who has been in the city for some time, will be in the city for some time.

On this day it becomes the business of many people, says an English writer, "to practice innocent impostures on their unsuspecting friends and neighbors, thus making that what we call April fools." The

"Preparedness is the Keynote of Success"



Suits \$10 to \$25, with blue emphasis on every price.

Evans Fifteens the suit of suits for suitors at \$15, and the best bargain by far for men who appreciate wear.

Oxfords that are worthy of your confidence and your money. Only good, honest, all leather, comfortable, stylish footwear need apply for admission here. They're priced from \$3.50 to \$7.

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SPOT CASH CLOTHIERS

"The Store with a Conscience"

Women in the Fight for Suffrage Before House Committee



Mrs. Frank M. Reising, chairman of the congressional committee of the National Woman Suffrage association, has made a hard fight in Washington before the judiciary committee, favorably. She has been assisted by many other women in the movement, notably Mrs. Pattie Ruth Jacobs, of Alabama, and Mrs. Florence Colman, of Arkansas.

W. T. Love has resigned as vice president of the Dorothy Mfg. Co., Dallas, N. C.

P. H. Howard of Lancaster, S. C., has accepted the position of overseer of carding at the Marlboro Mills, Nos. 1 and 2, McGill, S. C.

Sam Lanier of Gaston, N. C., has accepted the position of overseer of carding at the Rex Spinning Co., Gaston, N. C.

F. F. Robinson has resigned as overseer of spinning at Box Air, Ala., to accept the same position at Highland, Ga., Mills, Talladega, Ala.

B. Holden has resigned as overseer of carding at the Franks Cotton Mills, Jacksonville, Ala., and has moved to Charlotte, N. C.

W. S. Boyd has resigned as overseer of spinning at Chadwick-Hoskins mill No. 1, to become superintendent of the Harden Mfg. Co., Worth, N. C.

P. E. Adams has resigned to position at the Franks mill, Birmingham, N. C., to become overseer of spinning and twisting at the Turner mill, East Memphis, N. C.

C. W. Robinson has resigned as treasurer in Beaufort, N. C., as treasurer of the Dorothy Mfg. Co., Dallas, N. C.

J. N. Hester has resigned his position as team driver at the Avondale Cotton mill, Birmingham, Ala., to accept a similar position at Alto, Ga.

W. G. Cook, superintendent of Ward Shoos, E. C. W. Co., has been appointed an elder to represent Memorial church at the annual meeting of the Presbytery of South Carolina.

William C. Reynolds, general manager of the Dorothy Mfg. Co., Dallas, N. C., has been appointed an elder to represent Memorial church at the annual meeting of the Presbytery of South Carolina.

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MARKETS

Local market reports

Wheat, 1915-16, 1916-17

May 1915, 1916, 1917

June 1915, 1916, 1917

July 1915, 1916, 1917

Aug. 1915, 1916, 1917

Sept. 1915, 1916, 1917

Oct. 1915, 1916, 1917

Nov. 1915, 1916, 1917

Dec. 1915, 1916, 1917

Jan. 1916, 1917

Feb. 1916, 1917

March 1916, 1917

April 1916, 1917

May 1916, 1917

June 1916, 1917

July 1916, 1917

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Sept. 1916, 1917

Oct. 1916, 1917